

2nd biggest lotto jackpot drawn tonight

By Julie M. Kaurilo

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 10 YEARS, GOVERNMENT employee Chavito Arana, 52, has been buying the same numbers in the 6/49 Super Lotto draw every chance he gets.

But despite not having won the jackpot, Arana said the P230-million prize in tonight's draw was more than enough incentive to try his numbers again.

"In these hard times, I could use that amount to help out my children and grand kids... I could buy them piglets."

INQUIRER 4A

WORLD / A20

Plane in NY crash was on autopilot

SPORTS / A15

Kobe, Shaq star as West scuttles East

METRO / A17

Taguig launches high-tech war on street crime

BUSINESS / B1

Remittances surged to \$16.43B in '08

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEWS

Tuesday, February 17, 2009

5 Sections / Vol. 34 / No. 71 P18

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Cell phone makers start offering 'green' models

IS IT BETTER TO SAVE the earth, or to save money?

As the world economy drops further into crisis, more cell phone users may be confronting that choice.

CELLPHONE 4A



HOFMAN CHAVEZ DEFENSOR-SANTAGO DEFENSOR

WB blinks, agrees to brief Senate

By Christine G. Avendaño and Lella B. Salaverde

THE WORLD BANK IS OPEN TO meeting with senators—but not in a Senate hearing—on its claim that contractors have rigged the bidding of road projects that it funds.

World Bank country director

Bert Holman told Sen. Marissa Delrosier-Santiago yesterday that agency officials were willing to hold an "informal technical briefing" on the matter.

"We have indicated to the authorities that we can, if they so desire, meet to provide further informed technical knowledge and that we could welcome the

presence of senators interested in this matter at such a briefing," Holman said in his letter to Santiago.

He said the World Bank had been following "with great interest" the Senate hearings on the controversy.

Because of the letter, Santiago recommended that the Sen-

ate no longer subpoena Holman as she and other senators earlier suggested and instead "invite" (sic) and his staff to an informal technical briefing.

Santiago, chair of the economic affairs committee, the lead committee in the Senate panel of the controversy, made

WORLD 4A

Scrap-VFA calls mount

Defense chief says RP made mistakes in signing controversial agreement



PANGLOSS, Gov. Ed Panlilio (center) shows his copy of a copy of a Malolos resolution naming three officers as candidates for Pangloss police provincial director. Panlilio claims "jacking" operations were revised following President Macapagal-Arroyo's assumption of the presidency in 2001.

'Jueteng' back in GMA province, says Panlilio

By Philip C. Tubosa

"JUETENG," AN ILLEGAL gambling game, is back in Pangloss by law and the "provisional" of many people to that President Macapagal-Arroyo is "allowing" it to stay even by "banning" from it, Pangloss Gov. Ed Panlilio said yesterday.

In an interview with Inquirer

editors and reporters, Panlilio said jueteng operations were revised in Pangloss after these stopped for about a year following his Arroyo assumption of the presidency in 2001.

Panlilio credited the bill in jueteng to the President's "no-ask-and-you're-out" policy against police officials who failed to stamp out the number game.

LEGISLATION 4A

By Christine G. Avendaño and Christian K. Espinosa

A SENATOR YESTERDAY FORMALLY called on President Macapagal-Arroyo to scrap the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) with the United States, even as a senior Cabinet official admitted for the first time that the Philippines committed "mistakes" in accepting its controversial custody provision.

In Senate Resolution No. 893 filed in a divided chamber, Sen. Francisco Pangloss urged Ms. Arroyo to "revisit the provisions of the VFA and accordingly exercise our right to terminate the agreement considering that supervening events have rendered the VFA unworkable."

Pangloss was referring, among others, to the US refusal to surrender custody of American Marine Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith following a Supreme Court ruling that the convicted rapist be held in a Philippine-controlled facility.

"Philippine sovereignty should be respected by other States and should in no way be put in jeopardy by any

SCAPING 4A



NEW SC JUSTICE President Macapagal-Arroyo (right) and Chief Justice Renato Corona (left) share a light moment at the signing of the new Supreme Court Associate Justice David S. Maroñas at the Rial Hall of Palaciano.

CONSTITUTION 4A

Japan economy sinks deeper in worst crisis

TOKYO—JAPAN'S economy shrunk at its fastest rate in 35 years in the fourth quarter, as its fastest rate in the fourth quarter of the Group of Seven (G-7) developed countries worsened the global slump would drag on through most of the year.

Japan's gross domestic prod-

uct contracted 3.3 percent—an annual pace of 12.7 percent—in the October-December period. That was worse than expected and the steepest slide for Japan—the world's second-largest economy—since the oil shock in 1974.

Japan's negative growth is

more than triple the 3.8 percent annualized contraction in the United States—the world's largest economy—in the same quarter.

The latest figures cast a sobering reminder of the toll on Asia's export-driven economies as world

demand collapses amid the most severe downturn in decades.

"There is no question that this is the worst economic crisis since the end of World War II," said Japan's Economy Minister Kaoru Inoue. "The outcome

JAPAN 4A

Boy dad raises 'broken Britain' fears



WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT, ALTHEA? A man reads the Sun newspaper story about a baby-faced 13-year-old British schoolboy named Althea who has fathered a child with his 15-year-old girlfriend, making him one of the youngest parents ever in Britain.

LONDON—WHILE BRITAIN, THE LAND OF Shakespeare and the Beatles, Churchill and the Queen. Rolling green hills, pretty London shops, hip places splashed over television and newspapers.

Get to the reality of 2008: The highest teen pregnancy rate in western Europe, a binge drinking culture that leaves drunk teens played out in the streets and rising knife crime that has turned some pub fights into deadly affairs.

Althea, Britain.

In the latest episode of what some are calling "broken Britain," 13-year-old Althea and his 15-year-old girlfriend Charlotte became parents last week.

The news sparked a flurry of heated writing from the media—and even ordinary folk admitted it didn't help that Althea barely looked 18, let alone 13, as he cradled his newborn daughter.

Althea's father, who reportedly has nine or 10 children of his own, proudly promised to have a "birds and the bees" chat with his son to prevent him from producing a second child before he grows facial hair.

Readers that were not measuring for Bernard Ingham, once press secretary to

BOY DAD 4A



GOING HOME Jerry Pardo walks out of the Paoay City Jail on Monday. He plans to file a complaint with the Commission on Human Rights questioning his detention over the P728-million fertilizer land scam.

Veterans office bombarded with queries

By Jocelyn R. Uy and Christian K. Espinosa

THEY MAY BE IN THEIR 70S AND 80s, but as the rate they are filing old-time messages, they seem like they have suddenly recovered their youth.

The past three days, the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) has been bombarded with telephone calls and text messages from Filipinos war veterans thrilled to learn about the compensation they could finally get from the US government.

The queries started flooding in on Friday and most callers were surviving Philippine veterans of the World War II living in the provinces, Nostalgic Veterans, director for PVAO operations, said in an interview yesterday.

"These living in the provinces are the ones really in need as they are no-

VETERANS 4A



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CONSUMER & OIL PRICE WATCH

**COPW URGES DOE SECRETARY ANGELO REYES
AND DOJ SECRETARY RAUL GONZALES TO PERFORM
THEIR REGULATORY FUNCTIONS AS TASKED BY
THE OIL DEREGULATION LAW TO PROTECT
THE CONSUMERS AND ENSURE TRANSPARENCY.**

Over the past 11 years the DOE and the DOJ have been passive in implementing the safeguard provisions of the Law. With the increasing volatility of oil prices, it has become more urgent for these regulatory agencies to exercise their functions and powers to ensure fairness and transparency in oil pricing.

To ensure that the pump prices of diesel and gasoline are fair and reasonable the DOE and the DOJ **MUST** require the Oil Companies to submit the value and volume of their existing inventories which should include ocean freight, insurance, biofuel additives, cost to deliver from dock to depot and to the gas stations **AND THE DETAILS OF THEIR FORWARD CONTRACTS.**

**CRUDE PRICES FOR APRIL DELIVERY HAVE FALLEN TO A RECORD LOW OF \$37.51 PER
BARREL ON FEB.13**

COPW urges the DOE and DOJ to ask Oil Refiners Shell and Petron and the multinational importers Chevron and Total who control 88% of the market to explain if they bought forward for March delivery at \$33.86 NYMEX on Feb 12 and \$37.51 for April delivery.

Their response will ensure that the Transport Sector, Truck Haulers, Private Motorists and the Commuting Public will benefit from lower prices in March and April.

More importantly, this will ensure transparency and accountability and that prices of crude oil and finished products are **IN ACCORDANCE WITH GLOBAL PRICING.**

COPW will accept that pump prices went up because the Oil Refiners used MOPS, as they had to import finished products – diesel, gasoline and auto-gas – when they shutdown their refineries for maintenance in December and January.

When the Oil Refiners resume refining in March, the Benchmark will be Dubai or US NYMEX Crude. COPW expects the Oil Refiners to effect automatic rollbacks. If they do not, they will have to explain to the DOE and the public why not.

OPEC has announced that they will meet in Vienna on March 15th to further cut production and increase prices.

On the other hand, the US Congress has approved the \$787 billion Economic Stimulus Package while US banks led by JP Morgan Chase, Citigroup, Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae have extended a moratorium on Foreclosures until March 12.

COPW WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK

Do you agree with COPW position with regards to the Oil Deregulation Law?

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RAUL T. CONCEPCION
Chairman

Random drug tests net 3 high school students so far

By Dennis P. Aspillero

SIX HIX, THREE HIGH SCHOOL students in Metro Manila have been net positive for abuse (methamphetamine, hydrocodone) and marijuana on one of 1,310 students randomly tested for drug use by the Department of Health and Department of Education.

Follow-up confirmatory tests cleared one of the three students, health Secretary Francisco Duque III said yesterday.

The school drug testing program began Feb. 4.

In keeping with guidelines of the Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, Duque did not disclose the identities of the students.

"We are not going to the hospitals and clinics because we have an agreement with parents. But in consultation with the DepEd, we'll start with the parents for possible intervention programs," he said.

Duque stressed no punitive action would be taken against the students who test positive for drugs. He said the objective of the testing program is to "find out the national prevalence rate so we could decide what steps to take to reduce the drug problem among students."

Duque said it was too early to draw conclusions about the prevalence of drug use in schools based on the results so far.

"We still have a long way to go because we'll continue testing for the entire 2009," he said.

As of Feb. 11, tests from the DDM and DepEd had covered 123 private and public high schools in Metro Manila with a combined student population of 222,094.

The independent school, in total of 1,310 students, were randomly selected for drug testing.

On Feb. 5, a day after the testing began, one student tested positive for marijuana use. A confirmatory test confirmed the result.

The next day, a student tested positive for study, but a confirm-

atory test turned out negative.

On Feb. 11, another student tested positive for abuse. The confirmatory test has not been completed, Duque said.

The DDM has earmarked a total P50 million for the year to set up nine centers for the nationwide random drug tests that will cover 85,000 students in 4,000 high schools.

The Dangerous Drugs Board reiterated that results of the drug testing could not be used in criminal proceedings and assured the "strictest confidentiality" in handling the students' records.



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Loan for Legacy depositors hangs

THE BANGKO SENTRAL of **Philippines** (BSP) is not inclined to grant the P1440-**line** loan being sought by the **Philippines Deposit Insurance Corp.** (PDIC) to pay off the failed **Legacy bank's** liabilities.

A DOE report told the Interior the Advisory Board had not answered

the PIRC request for money to disband the president of grants, and the books.

steadily used to get a train from the B&O" said the woman, who sought anonymity because she did not yet feel it morally right to disclose her decision on the issue.

The RFP cannot be careless about granting loans because it has its own financial concerns to think about, the economist said.

Earlier, the FDIC said its deposit insurance fund—the pool of money from

100% president, Jose Higuera told the final visit of a non-tribally local and non-state. This month is

United Tree Corp.
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1 HR. RELEASE

But Nguyen said it was a matter not to take and a

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 Dates: April 15 - May 15, 2015



"It's a business decision," he said.



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"Sabi niya, kung mahal ko siya,
dapat patunayan ko.
Pero ready na ba ako?"
Katleen, 16

In a recent survey, 78% of Filipinos and 75% of Congress said that government should be required to teach family planning to the young. More than half do not think this will lead to promiscuity. If you believe that responsible sexual behavior can be promoted through information and values education in schools, please support the Reproductive Health Bill. It provides for on-age-appropriate sexuality education, so that girls like Katleen are better prepared to choose a decent future for themselves.

Wag natin silang ibale-wala. RH Bill, ipasa, ngayon na!
visit www.petitiononline.com/rhan2008/petition.html to support the bill

- 57% of first sexual encounters are unplanned
- Nearly half of adolescent girls don't know they can get pregnant even with just one encounter
- Only 15% of adolescents say they talk about sex at home with their families

[illegible]

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KETCHUM DUZERO
Comedian

DBP is not only lending

Mikey denies blocking police appointment

By Lela Solares

MANILA (INQUIRER) — "Mikey" Arroyo disputed the Eduardo Padilla claim that he blocked the latter's attempt to appoint a new provincial police director.

"Who said I'll give out that? I'm completely surprised," the congressman, the eldest son of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, said in a phone interview.

He also said he was asked by police officials to get his relatives involved, including an appointment of his police officer, but he said he only dealt with the province.

Arroyo added that during a previous election, he was not a candidate.

"Thinking the affairs of a province is a very different from running the affairs of a party," the lawmaker said.

He denied Padilla's attempt to get him to help in the election, as he said he was not a candidate, but he said he was not a candidate.

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"Maybe if that is his assumption, he should wait for the regional committee. He made phone calls to me instead of going to the office," he said.

Arroyo insisted that he was one of the few politicians in Pangasinan who have any financial means in the province. Padilla, then his post, said yet I am the one to be talking.

He said Padilla had dealings with many local business, who are also known, causing them to withdraw their support from the governor.

Even the local government representative that had supported him had been asked to call to establish his support, he said.

"The only one supporting him was the media and the stockist in Manila," the President's son said.

But the lawmaker said he was not picking a fight with the governor, a point, because he was not a candidate.

"No, I'm not. I'm not to fight with a person... My intention is to let you go to the night with you. It's very sad to see you to fight that out in the night," he said.

'Jueteng' back in GMA province

By Lela Solares

But after a year, Jueteng came back with a bang. In fact, it was a year ago, when Padilla had been trying to remove the Pangasinan police director, some say, but he was not a candidate.

But the Department of Justice and Local Government (DJLG) and the National Police Commission (NPC) are not the only ones who are not a candidate.

"The President, my son, he stopped it already for almost a year ago, but he said that he was not a candidate.

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butting province police "because they have I'm engaged against it."

Before, a province reportedly received P1 million in P1 million a month from parking revenues, while the police regional director got P4 million to 5 million, according to the governor.

Padilla said that if the governor and the provincial police director were again joining in a province, the legal number would be reduced to 15 percent. If the police regional director joins them, parking would be down to 10 percent.

Roadside

Padilla said this was one of the reasons he wanted to resign, the report said. Pangasinan police director, ordered by the police official had claimed that "There was no talking in Pangasinan."

He said he had been asking for Padilla's replacement for the last 10 months, sending out 18 letters, reports, but the Padilla and the DJLG parties did not answer.

"We have been told, there are not answers circulating that Congressman Mikey Arroyo gave specific instructions to the local police director to let him go. It's not that they want to give it to me. They want to let me to be the one, especially [Senator] Sen. Arroyo. It will not be in the province, Padilla said.

Padilla, in office in Pangasinan, should have been told, he said, a second, but he has not been told in the past. "Two, one and two, one and two," the governor said.

He said he had been told by Padilla that he was not a candidate.

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PASG holds 324 used cars in Subic

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—AT LEAST 324 USED VEHICLES due for reexport from the Subic Bay Freeport to Hong Kong have been held by the Presidential Anti-Smuggling Group (PASG) since Sunday following reports that these would be taken to China City or Port Jinn in Cagayan.

PASG chief Renato Villan Jr said he ordered the cargo held after the re-export to Hong Kong started exporting the shipment.

A total of 124 trucks, mostly 2000-year-old vehicles, and cars, have been brought to Subic on Sunday, said PASG operations chief Jovito Lopez. Villan told.

The vehicles came from the AFP yard at the Subic's Head Supply Base.

He said the trucks and cars were brought to Subic on Sunday, said PASG operations chief Jovito Lopez. Villan told.

The vehicles came from the AFP yard at the Subic's Head Supply Base.

and intermediaries in the 1990s about the cargo movement, Villan said.

What the PASG obtained was a copy of a request with a marginal note declaring that the Port of Subic had "no objection" to the shipment.

In the May 2000 report, Villan Jr (PASG) administrator Antonio Arana said the vehicles were part of the Port of Subic 3,000 units held by the PASG after the Supreme Court in 2007 banned the admission of used vehicles and their sale into the country.

The document made it evident to the country's office of second-hand cars in Executive Order No. 100, though there to support the develop-

ment of the motor vehicle industry in the country, the PASG held the importation of second-hand vehicles at the Subic Bay Freeport.

The industry believed, but the local automotive industry protested the heavy losses of used vehicles, including widespread smuggling.

Between 5,000 and 20,000 vehicles without proper permits had entered Subic, mostly since 1999, year imported with the late Jose Calalang, PASG senior deputy administrator and chief of the Subic Anti-Smuggling Task Force, showed.

An PASG-BRIS team formerly exposed by the smuggling group higher figures, saying about 5,000 units were being smuggled monthly.

Arana said the vessel intended to ship on the 104 vehicles since from China, Singapore, Vietnam and the United States. A document showed that the vessel was bound for Hong Kong, he said.

The application to reexport the vehicles reached the PASG on Feb. 5, he said. The agency approved it because PASG has been applying for import, he said.

The PASG turned down an application last year because the vehicles would be taken to that town in Cagayan, reportedly the private means of used vehicles. Theoretically, Inspector General Arana said.

Bishop to PNP execs: Stop 'jueteng' or face relief

MANILA—The Catholic Bishop of Manila warned police officials not to tamper with the operations of an alleged gambling game which is being advertised in the government-controlled Manila Times. The bishop said.

He said he was disappointed because reports that the PNP was being used to a number of towns in an alleged case for "jueteng". The PNP officers can they were turned down to collect but on the premise.

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FOGGY ROAD
A property surveying firm and geologist is negotiating a concession road and log in Marikina, Batang, Cebu City.

Geologist pushes small-scale solutions, not nukes

MANILA—IF THE CONCEPT means to leave the anticipated energy risk "jueteng", why not go to the country (under the nation's) instead of resorting to nuclear power?

Dr. Roberto Pineda, retired professor of the National Institute of Geological Science at the University of the Philippines, said the nuclear is just one of small-scale solutions to address the energy crisis because it does not use fuel, it is clean and it is a local source.

"We can use energy of any possible size but to use small is feasible. There are small-scale alternative energy sources should be the ones that should be supported by the government," he said.

He said the PASG operation would give great health risk to the people and harm the environment.

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He said if people are really determined to conserve energy and not be bothered by the cost of fuel, they could go back to using traditional cooking stoves, he said.

He said small-scale energy sources are better than large hydroelectric dams because these are not environmentally destructive, would not require compensation, and would not require large-scale construction.

Mining firm probed on asbestos dumping

MANILA—THE DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources is conducting an investigation into a mining company to investigate if it was found dumping asbestos waste in Marikina.

Lupatun Consolidated Mining Co. (LCMC) is being investigated for the dumping of asbestos waste in Marikina, he said.

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Quiting his connection with the Philippine Mining, Philippine Mining Company (PMC) has been asked to resign by the PNP. The PNP officers can they were turned down to collect but on the premise.

He said he was disappointed because reports that the PNP was being used to a number of towns in an alleged case for "jueteng". The PNP officers can they were turned down to collect but on the premise.

Definitely illegal

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Left at home, 3 siblings die in Lapu-Lapu fire

MANILA—THREE SIBLINGS, aged 19 years and below, died in a fire that destroyed their house in Marikina City, Lapu-Lapu City, on Sunday.

The fire broke out at 10:25 p.m. on Sunday, said the fire department.

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Colleague of slain Aklan radioman recalls threats

MANILA—A FORMER colleague of a slain Aklan radioman recalled threats from the police and military officials.

He said he was threatened by the police and military officials.

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License

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By House

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Developer



MIDLAND ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

The World

Julio Llorente II, Manila

Plane in NY crash was on autopilot

BUFFALO, NEW YORK—THE COMMUTER PLANE that crashed near Buffalo was on autopilot until just before it went down in icy weather, indicating that the pilot may have ignored federal safety accommodations and violated the airline's own policy for flying in such conditions, an investigator said on Sunday.

Federal guidelines said the airline's own instructions require a pilot should not engage the autopilot when flying through ice. If the ice is severe, the company that operated Continental Flight 3407 requires pilots to shut off the autopilot.

"You may be in a unusual mode to have something occur

in that the autopilot can sense it," said John Chastander of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), which also recommends that pilots disengage the autopilot in icy conditions.

Automatic flight devices restricted the aircraft to manual control less than a full hour as the city Chastander said.

During a Sunday briefing, Chastander described the flight's last few minutes, which included a steep dip and roller coaster like pitching and rolling.

Chastander said information from the plane's flight data recorder indicates that the plane pitched up at an angle of 11 degrees, then pitched down at 10 degrees.

The plane rolled to the left at 44 degrees, then stopped back to the right at 103 degrees—11 degrees beyond vertical.

Radio data shows Flight 3407 fell from 320 meters above sea level to 300 meters in less than 10 seconds, he said. Passengers and crew would have experienced

forces up to twice as strong as on the ground.

The plane crashed half a mile from a house Thursday night, killing all 49 people on board and one person on the ground.

Just before they went down in a suburban neighborhood near the Buffalo airport, the plane experienced "significant" ice buildup on their wings and windshield. Other aircraft in the area said no traffic restrictions, they also experienced wing around the same time.

The Dash Q400 plane operated by Capital Air was equipped with a "stick shaker" mechanism that alerts the pilot to ice on the wings. The plane is about to be

reworked, left, a mechanic said a rail.

Others said shaker systems, it would have automatically turned off the autopilot, Chastander said.

Chastander said the plane's deicing system was tested on 11 minutes after it took off from Buffalo, New York, and ended up on the main flight. Ice on the wings lighted the system appeared to be working.

Investigators, who examined the wreckage, said they appeared to be running normally at the time of the crash, too.

In a December safety alert, issued by the NTSB, the agency said pilots in icy conditions

should turn off or limit the use of the autopilot to "best" flight changes in the handling qualities of the airplane.

Capital Air operates a fleet of 50 regional turboprops for Continental Connection, United Express and US Airways Express.

Chastander and Colgan, like more witnesses, had begun following NTSB recommendations that pilots use deicing system as soon as they sense conditions that might lead to icing. Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman Andrea Shivers said the agency advises pilots to disengage the autopilot when ice is accumulating, but the agency is not mandatory. AP

CAR CZAR IDEA DROPPED

Obama to set up auto industry task force

DECAO, PRESIDENT Barack Obama has decided to launch a government task force for restructuring the struggling US auto industry instead of naming a "car czar" with sweeping powers, a senior administration official said on Sunday.

Obama's appointing Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner as his "designer" for overseeing the effort.

In fact, Obama did not appoint the new high-level post right away, said White House economic adviser Lawrence Summers, the official said.

But Obama, who took office on Jan. 20 and last week was re-elected, approved of a 100-day plan economic stimulus package, has dropped the idea of having a single appointee empowered to handle the critically ailing task of restructuring America's auto industry.

"There is no one czar," Barack said, speaking on conditions of anonymity.

There was no indication

what an idea or how Obama, due to stress to Washington on Monday after spending the long Presidential Day holiday, went

back home in Chicago, planned to unveil his strategy for dealing with the auto crisis.

But General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC, set up in a public new task force plan by Tuesday showing how they can be made viable after receiving \$70 billion to restructure and the final weeks of the Bush administration.

The clock was ticking on one, said talks between GM and the United Auto Workers, which resumed on Sunday after negotiations broke off. If GM can't work with the union on debt and costs, the automaker would be left to restructure on its own, said a GM spokesman, who declined to comment.

Obama, in an interview with major newspapers last week, said the federal government may either must help in saving

automakers if they show they can't be commercially viable. He estimated the companies need at least \$100 billion.

It had been widely known that Obama was considering naming a high-profile car czar to lead, some critics said the delay added uncertainty about the industry's prospects until the week 100 financial crisis in December.

While there was no immediate explanation, why the vice president, Obama's approach will leave the auto industry without the hands of his chosen economic adviser.

The administration official who declared Obama's plan said the automakers were prepared to submit their restructuring proposals to him and that the government teams were working to help make restructuring feasible.

"Once reviewed, we will announce the reports and over the course of the next week or two will meet with the companies to

work through them," the official added. Automakers and their creditors will be expected to agree on programs to meet their restructuring goals by month's end.

The new panel, the President said, will be made up of senior administration officials, including the department of Treasury, Labor, Transportation, Commerce and Energy and will be co-chaired by Geithner and Summers, the official said.

Geithner's deputy said being empowered despite being inexperienced for taking in other major specifics in his recent assumption of the administration's core highly anticipated task.

Obama welcomed the creation of the new panel, saying, "We are going to meet with them to discuss their plans to ensure our country's stability and to meet the requirements of its loan guarantees."

Reuters



THE SERVICE "Photo Of With My Platoon" Medal awarded to a US Marine for his service during the Vietnam War, on display during opening of a big fair in New York on Feb. 15.

UK, French make stubs collide

LONDON—TWO massive Allied submarines, one British and one French, have collided while on separate patrols in the North Ocean, newspaper reports said on Sunday.

The collision, some information sources had been damaged in the water, said the British navy, but no one was injured in the accident and no one was damaged in the collision.

The British navy said the collision occurred in the North Ocean, the Daily Telegraph said.

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Tariff protests in Russian port rattle Kremlin

MOSCOW—Russia's Kremlin and Vitaly Vladimirov, head of the Russian port authority, have been accused of blocking the port of Novorossiysk, a major Russian port, from the sea, according to a report from the port authority.

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The Road to the 21st Philippine Advertising Congress Kicks in to High Gear

Advertising industry heavyweights, sponsors, exhibitors and participants are expected to throng to Baguio City from November 18 to 21, 2008 for the 21st Philippine Advertising Congress. The prestigious event coincides with the centennial year celebrations of the highest summer capital in North Luzon.

With the accessible venue, the Ad Congress is set in an inspiring atmosphere and exhibit grounds. The event highlights the trade exhibit, trade spectrum, as the grandest yet Baguio City Mayor Hon. Peter Ray Balistrera will formally open the event on the first day at the CAP Convention Center Garden Wing. The exhibit, with its wide range of booths and seminars, will be open to participants throughout the congress.

Plethora sessions featuring industry relevant as speakers will also be held at the CAP Convention Center. The keynote speaker for the 21st Ad Congress is business tycoon and philanthropist Fernando Zobel de Ayala, President and Chief Operating Officer of Ayala Land, Inc. The convention center will also hold track-specific break-out sessions, with Creative, Marketing and Media themed tracks, with sessions at the Baguio Baguio Country Club open to participants as well.

The talks in the plenary and break-out sessions promise to be highly informational and interactive. The Ad Congress has diversified at different activities that the participants can take part in. Parties, sporting events, an exhibition case, a photography session, tours around Baguio City and even a poker tournament for a cause will all be available for delegates during the event.

To top the Ad Congress, the annual Awarards will take place on the last night. A student competition component has been figured into the awards ceremony as well.

With the theme **PERSPECTIVES**, the 21st Ad Congress will explore and share new creative marketing solutions to cater to the changing needs of businesses in the country in the midst of current obstacles. All the Ad Congress, participants will have the opportunity to see things from different points of view—everything multi-dimensional and everything relevant to the industry.

To visit see you waiting for? All made lead to Baguio for the 21st Philippine Advertising Congress. To know more, visit the website at www.adcon.com.ph and register. Student rates are at P12,500 per person.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2008

LIFESTYLE *Wellness*

EXCELLENCE elevates its home user's HTML skills (at left). As much as the ride is technical, some trails are like rollercoasters, such as this one by the beach.

By Susan A. Jendrya

YOU DON'T HAVE to travel far to enjoy the sweet taste of trail biking. A bike trail in the heart of the metropolis has been tapped out by the Philippine Army. The commanding officer of the Security and Escort Battalion at Fort Andres Bonifacio, McKinley Hills, Taguig City, is a mountain bike enthusiast.

Already a hot topic in many mountain bike (MTB) forums and blogs, the MTB streak at the Fort Hunkenters in the heartland of Cal. Avenue C, Padua N, who initially wanted to clean up the neglected side of street prosperity when he

He introduced paper waste disposal, and recyclable "garbage" and moved many of the business inside and moved

"I wanted to improve the landscape. The grass alone gave all the set-up in a man's

above used as one dried wall, with three painted a like wall. Below

and Nielsen created a bike trail, soon enough the trail became the training ground for the Philippine Army cycling team.

Today, although not quite finished, the MTH across the McKinley Hills is considered by many hard-core MTH hikers as

When silver MTH rollmops get to test the trail, they requested the army to create more challenging drops and routes.

Although the wall is short, it covers almost all the southern

Why
the MTB
circuit
at the Fort
is the talk
of the
town

LEISURE trails (hike) and sports trail trail systems are very visible all over the island.

te skin with 'Cleopatra's' gold mask

**Inside
Out**
Cory
Distrito

Could it have been her frequent returns to her native upstate New York or her passion for opera? Chacones was Greek, not Egyptian, having descended from the line of thinking a general is the way of thinking the great. What only imagine how the origin of her famous ancestors had Greek influence.

there is no sleeping, that something magical happens to you after this golden experience. The Japanese add gold flakes to hair conditioners, so could there be some truth to its being a health booster?

At the N98 Clinic in Dong, Dr. Gaojie Caoqiang and Wang Min of Guangdong Institute from Kona offer state-of-the-art endoscopy harnessing the best of Western biopsy techniques. Rich in nutritional properties, the gold mud of Dong is rich in minerals and proteins like iron and pigmentation. However, in removing blemishes are more and less over dramatically after a

trial message is neither one
or the other. And, interestingly, it
is easily absorbed. It reads to
be an unusually young glowing
complexion. Call the Clinic at
871.624.0970 or 871.624.0970.

While it may be expensive, a gold powder in your bath, hair or a golden powder towel-dryer. Mix 1-2 tsp of *Bombay* (Santal) in your warm bath and add five drops of essence, allow it to dry on skin. *Lactone* is its age-defying benefits.

Mia Tasmara provides us with a few drops of oil or more and rub on your skin. Leave on for 18 minutes. It will leave your skin soft and hydrated. Tasmara is a basic ingredient in so-

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Enrolling with Old Hometown

businesses deliver statements efficiently and securely is receiving your statements. Once received, you receive your statement faster via electronic mail. Creditors can receive their statements in half the time, so this is completed within three to five days after generation, as opposed to paper statements that

You also get added security as your statement is protected by a password. You can also view your statement, at the bank in 12 months, anytime, but be honest.
